environment free from political turmoil and violence that a Summit would yield the desired outcome. We have stressed our keenness to hold the 13th SAARC Summit in Dhaka at an early date. Pakistan, as Chair of SAARC, is required to initiate consultations with the host Government (Bangladesh) and other member countries for identifying fresh dates for the 13th SAARC Summit, which are mutually convenient to all SAARC members.

Atrocities against minorities in Bangladesh

†3768. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a press communique issued by the'Hindu-Buddhist-Christain Unity, Bangladesh' regarding atrocities being committed against the minorties particularly against Hindus living in Bangladesh.

(b) whether Government are aware of the recent attacks made on the houses and the places of worship of the minorities living there, and

(c) If so, the details thereof and the reasons for which Government have not registered their protest to the Government of Bangladesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are frequent reports, including in the Bangladeshi media, of attacks on properties and places of worship of the minority Hindu community. Attacks on the minority Buddhist, Ahmadiya and Shia communities have also been reported.

(c) The Government remains concerned at the reports of atrocities against miniorities in Bangladesh and have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh.

Pak President's New Delhi visit

3769. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what issues were discussed during the recent Pak President's visit to New Delhi;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.